

GAME THEORY (continued).

Part 9. Non-reducible $2 \times n$ games.

I can just hear the screams. "What the blue blazes is a non-reducible game, $2 \times n$ or otherwise?", you are yelling. Well, patient sufferers YOU KNOW ALREADY - a non-reducible $2 \times n$ game is one which will not reduce to 2×2 by the consideration of dominance or equality, and we started considering these in the last part of the series. So there!

With which brief reminder of what happened last time (it's some time since we met, after all, but you may remember that the butler did it) we continue our interesting but, I sometimes suspect, solitary excursion into the realms of game theory.

There is a sad fact implicit in the last paragraph - so far, apart from a few bewildered comments and rude remarks about saddles, we have had no reaction whatsoever to the series. How can this be? Is it possible that ALBION readers just don't bother to read the thing? Or has the mathematics, delving as it does into the mysteries of addition, subtraction, and even division, caused our otherwise keen and alert students to flounder in a maze of self-recrimination for having made too many ink darts in the maths class at school? Well, it serves you right - if you were in my class you wouldn't throw ink darts.

You would probably throw bombs.....

Anyway, the series will continue with or without your co-operation. As the mathematician once said 'I can't really multiply alone, but I will try'. About time you looked at the early part of the series again, isn't it? The magnificent homework prize still has not a single claimant.....

So much for chastening comment, and now on to the series. Last time I promised to expand a little on $2 \times n$ games which won't reduce to 2×2 , and to explain the techniques for dealing with them by means of certain 'approximately-real-life' examples. Which I will do, being a generous soul. First, a quick reminder:-

IF A $2 \times n$ GAME WILL NOT REDUCE TO A 2×2 , THEN THERE IS A 2×2 SOLUTION - ALL WE HAVE TO DO IS TO TEST THE 2×2 GAMES PRESENT IN THE $2 \times n$ UNTIL WE FIND A SOLUTION THAT SATISFIES THE ORIGINAL.

Very important, this.

As things are, it seems extraordinarily difficult to think up suitable real-life examples for $2 \times n$ games; this is strange, since games of other sizes present no problems. But you are already accustomed to a certain degree of artificiality in these pages, and hence won't, we hope, mind a bit more now.

Example 15. Dave goes to the pub again.

Dave is once again whiling away some time in the pub before going home. As usual, he has got into that mood which roots him to the spot, glaring into his beer and wondering what it's all about. Even the barmaid fails to attract his attention.

When the stranger arrives, Dave's surprise can be imagined. And he is even more surprised (and gratified - you see he had been reading ALBION ever since his last visit) when the stranger once again offers some diversion in the form of another game.

"Same sort of idea, really", announces the stranger. "We still choose a certain number of fingers and show our choice simultaneously. However we'll give you more chance this time - you are allowed the choice between one, two or three fingers, while I can only choose one or two. The payoff is simply the sum of the number of fingers shown, in pounds, and it goes to you if the number is odd and to me if the number is even. Clear?"

"Think so" mumbled Dave, as he slyly scribbled some calculations on the barmaids thigh. You want to see what he wrote? No, Grandpa - you can't see what he wrote it on! Selecting a suitable area of skin, Dave had produced the following matrix:-

		Stranger shows:	
		1 finger	2 fingers
Dave shows:	1 finger	-2	3
	2 fingers	3	-4
	3 fingers	-4	5

Quickly verifying that there is no saddle point (the maxmin is -2, the minmax is 3) Dave has a quick look for dominant strategies. And fails to find any! Thus this is a non-reducible 2x3 game, just as the barmaid is a non-reducible 38x24x36 game (and Dave ought to know).

Dave applies the theory. "There must be a 2x2 solution here", he mutters to himself "so I must try each of the 2x2 games in this 2x3 game in turn, and find which gives the right solution for the original game". Following Dave's line of reasoning, we examine the following three 2x2 games:-

Sub-game 1.

		Stranger	
		1	2
Dave	1	-2	3
	3	-4	5

This sub-game has a saddle-point at Dave 1 / Stranger 1. Since there is no saddle point in the original game, this can't be the right solution. Undeterred, Dave exposes more flesh and tries again. Afterwards he has a look at

Sub-game 2.

		Stranger	
		1	2
Dave	2	3	-4
	3	-4	5

No saddle point, so regular methods, tried and true, lead to the solution:-

Dave plays in the ratio 9:7. Stranger plays in the ratio 9:7. Value of the game is -1/16th.

Here we are, then, with the strategies:-
Claude 1 - hand gun

ANNOUNCEMENT - ANOTHER ALBION 'FIRST'

We have a surprise for you in the next issue. I know - ALBION is full of surprises, but this one will be pleasant, for a change, and represents a completely new (as far as I know) departure in the field of Diplomacy magazine publishing.

No, we are not eliminating the editor.....

No, we are not going to be polite to Malcolm Watson.....

No, we are not going to retract our Harold Wilson cartoon.....

What we are going to do is print the rules of:-

Business Game Number One.

This is a business simulation game, invented and copyrighted by Rene Nokin, a new member of the AHIKS British Region. Other editors please note - this section of ALBION may not be reproduced in other magazines without the express permission of Rene himself.

In this issue, just to whet your appetite, we give a brief account of the game.

Four players are required, each representing a manufacturing company. The market is represented by six customers. The production facilities available to each company are identical in layout, but not necessarily in size. Five items are manufactured by a variety of processes in each company, and companies are required, each month (game month, that is), to submit to the monitor tenders for the manufacture of each item to each customer. They also submit details of the organisation of their manufacturing workshops, men employed, overtime to be worked etc. In addition they have to cope with certain fixed charges, administration costs, rent etc. which are to be paid irrespective of the gaining of an order.

The rules themselves are quite easy to follow and to apply; there is a bit of arithmetic for the players to do in order to make their decisions, but nothing like the amount that falls to the poor monitor.

So - there you are. Full rules in the next issue, which will also contain the offer of a game. Four player only, and for the first game at any rate we will restrict entry to British players, so that the game can run on short deadlines.

LETTERS LETTERS LETTERS LETTERS LETTERS LETTERS LETTERS

Dave Johnston, 5451 Rockwood Road, Columbus, Ohio 43229, U.S.A.

Dear Don,

I happened to come across your magazine in a dentist's office in Cleveland, Ohio. The chap claims it makes patients look forward to their extractions.

Actually, I received a copy as a member of the Lonely Mountain consortium, the editor of Black Sands. I'm one of those to whom Charles Wells is Primus Inter Pares, a position which is to Lonely Mountain not unlike the Queen is to England. Except of course that we don't expect Charles to provide an heir, and he needn't muck about with the Duke of Edi and that lot. For reasons of semantics, however, it will be best if you don't refer to Charles as the Queen of Lonely Mountain.

What I must say before these sentences fill up my air letter, is that ALBION is super-magnigorgeous, a joy to read and a source of light and heat when the central heating goes out. Can I explain the thrill in reading that Russia was to be written at Upper Dungleass, Arbroath Road, Dundee? Or that Church Lawton, Stoke on Trent would be sending mail to Bob Thomas, who is living with Shirley Warren in Southampton? I know all English are under strict orders to be quaint from the tourist bureau, but it was quite a pleasure to see Diplomacy don the derby. That said, one must also protest the shabby treatment of Malcolm Watson. As a Scot, he must be the noblest of men. Remember, this nation has always produced great warriors, and while wearing kilts and listening to the first 'infernal contraption', the bagpipe. Consider that, with a kilt, the Scot is the only soldier in the world who had to worry about the draft after he was inducted. I must admit to prejudice, as I'm neither an Italian-American nor an Afro-American, but a Scots-American. Our line has been in the U.S. for a long time, of course. While invited to join the May-flower party, we waited a bit until the IATA approved group charter rates. But so long as history lives, we shall have the ancestral memory of our lovely home moors and the English who drove us out by building fish and chip stands. So long as there is a Bannock to be burned, you English had best respect the Scot. Your magazine is such a pleasure to read that I hope you can arrange to make it widely available with the best speed and minimum cost. Mailing costs might be cut with thinner paper, or you might consider sending the stencils air mail for reproduction over here. Although you should keep four British players in each game, it would be a great pleasure to be entered in one of your international games. Since I just received issues 7, 8 and 9 in mid-February, someone would have to write me when an opening appears. Of course, ALBION will always be a pleasure to read. I don't know what a 'thick wodge' is, but I shall study your style until others think of me as being one, also. Sincerely yours,
Dave Johnston.

I have already written to Dave to thank him for his amusing letter. A number of points arise out of it; however let us first dispel the rumour that ALBION has connived in blackening the name of the Scot. We have no objection to the Scot at all - as Dave remarks, they are the noblest of men. As to Malcolm Watson; nobbliest, yes, but as for noblest, well..... Please note that the ALBION editor has never blackened Malcolm's name. No never. Well, hardly..... Dave's suggestions for making ALBION more readily available over in the USA are most welcome, as are his kind comments about the magazine itself. This is a problem to which I have, at odd times, given some thought, but without coming to any really satisfactory conclusion. First, thinner paper is grand for mailing, but the stuff is so transparent that to print on both sides would be out of the question - some readers will no doubt remember instances when printing on one side has been quite confusingly legible on the other, and that's using 18lb. duplicating paper. If I could get hold of paper that is lighter but still has some opacity, I would be very happy to use it for the overseas copies. Of course, I could use

their criterion is ambiguous.

I enjoy ALBION very much. Why don't you brain-drain, then more of us USAers will be able to read it?

Yours,

Terry.

Thanks for the interesting comments on the victory criterion, Terry. Although I shouldn't say so, after being proved so obviously inept on another matter by Rod, I agree entirely with your view concerning the actual time at which a unit was annihilated. After all, the retreat season is only there for the convenience of postal play - all retreats, annihilations etc. should properly be regarded as taking place at the same time as the moves that caused them. The fact that the retreat season exists at all is to allow the players the chance of retreating their own units, rather than adopting some universal rule for retreats which could be handled by the gamesmaster and announced at the same time as the displacing moves, such as the Just Right Hand Rule, which I gather is used in LM.

As to the brain drain suggestion, my persistent attempts to become part of the brain drain are just as persistently met with the request to apply to the Ministry of Public Works and Sewerage, as the body best equipped for providing the drain most suitable for the commodity I offer. Ah well, I could always emigrate to Scotland.

Anyway, many thanks for the letter, Terry, and glad to hear you enjoy reading ALBION.

That concludes the letters to hand at present. If anything else of particular interest arrives before printing, it will be inserted towards the end of the issue.

I should point out that Don Miller also drew my attention to the remarks I made (inadvisedly) concerning the victory criterion. So I have been chastened by the Games Bureau Chairman and the Chief of the Diplomacy Division simultaneously.

Up-dated Trades and Subscriber List.

Correct as at March 2nd 1970. Note the additions.

Symbols: T = we have a trade agreement.

S = subscriber. Figures in () indicate last issue under current subscription.

P = player in one or more games. Figures in * * indicate last issue for which postage has been paid.

1. Michael Nethercot (P). *56* 20 Moray Close, Rise Park, Romford, Essex.
2. Malcolm Watson (P). *N/A* 3 Hawthorn Avenue, Timperley, Cheshire.
3. Colin Newcombe (P). *N/A* 115 Longdown Road, Congleton, Cheshire.
4. John Robertson (P). *32* Upper Dungallass, Arbroath Road, Broughty Ferry, Dundee DD5 1QN.
5. Chris Hancock (P). *17* 17 Mallard Road, Chelmsford, Essex.
6. David Wood (P). *22* 60 Woodgate Avenue, Church Lawton, Stoke on Trent ST7 3EF.
7. Rod Walker (T). 5058 Hawley Blvd., San Diego, California 92116.

8. John McCallum (T). P.O.Box 52, Ralston, Alberta, Canada.
9. Jeff Key (T). 4611 N. Pennsylvania, Apt. 1-D, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73112.
10. Dick Holcombe (T). 45 Kimberlin Heights Drive, Oakland, California 94619.
11. Ray Evans (P). *29 plus 2d* 12 Mareth Road, Bedford, Bedfordshire.
12. Bob Johnson (S-T?) P.O.Box 134, Whippany, New Jersey 07981.
13. Don Miller (T). 12315 Judson Road, Wheaton, Maryland 20906.
14. Bob Thomas (P). *14* 155 Coxford Road, Shirley Warren, Southampton SO1 6JX.
15. Bob Stuart (P) *34 plus 4d* 3 Millwood Road, Orpington, Kent.
16. George Patton (S). (?) 1841 Suffolk Road, Columbus, Ohio 43221.
17. Eric Slack (S) (24 plus 10d) 26 Hartcroft Road, Bestwood Park Estate, Nottingham NG5 5JF.
18. Sheila Minion (S). (25 plus 6d) 7 Beeley Close, Allestree, Derby DE3 2PY.
19. Charles Wells (S). (?) 3021 Washington Blvd., Cleveland, Ohio 44118.
20. Terry Kuch (T). 7554 Spring Lake Drive, Bethesda, Maryland 20034.
21. Larry Fong (S). (14) 704 Alice Street, Oakland, California 94607.
22. Edi Birsan (S). (?) 48-20 39th Street, Long Island City, New York 11104.
23. Bill Heim (S). (44) P.O.Box 281, Mount Eden, California 94557.
24. John Lilley (S). (?) 33 Brooklands Way, Redhill, Surrey.
25. Buddy Tretick (S). (?) 3702 Wendy Lane, Silver Spring, Maryland 20906.
26. Fred Davis (S). (33) 5307 Carriage Court, Baltimore, Maryland 21229.
27. Richard Redd (S). (?) K'vutzat Urim, Doar Na Negev, Israel.
28. Rod Blackshaw (S). (18) 24 Oak Cottages, Styal, Wilmslow, Cheshire.

In future, we will run off 45 copies of each issue of ALBION, since we seem to be expanding faster than we dared hope initially. If the demand requires it, this number can be further increased. I have at present, I think, **two** requests for the back issues which are not available - from Bill Heim and Rod Blackshaw. Any others? Please let me know. I will have a look at the costing in the meantime and find out at what point I could afford to get them copied. So - any more for Hypertweedle?

I hope that soon we can sort out the state of the subscriptions labelled with an onymous (?). This means that either you owe me cash for ALBION copies received so far or, in the cases of Charles Wells, Buddy Tretick and Richard Redd, that we are in the middle of settling the issue. Others - you can either send dollar bills to me (only before July 1970 - no use from that time onwards) at 25 cents per issue received, or send cash to Bob Johnson on my behalf. I probably owe Bob half the money he will get by this method anyway.

Oh yes - one more addition to the above.

Special category. Allan Calhmer, 321 W. Calendar Avenue, Kensington Apartments 2E, La Grange, Illinois 60525.

He receives ALBION as a penance for having invented Diplomacy in the first place. That'll teach you, Allan!

HERE'S A HOW-DE-DO! A special report from the ALBION underground staff, reporting from a sewer yet again.

For some time now - in my case since 1960 or thereabouts - we have all been thinking we know this game of Diplomacy. I bought my copy in the early '60s (price 45/- even at that time) and duly noted the fact that the game was a product of Intellectual Diversions Limited. I have seen more recently-purchased versions of the game, and they are substantially the same - the art-work on the board is slightly different, but the rules etc. are exactly the same as the ancient copy I have.

A small incident in DIPLODEUR II - the game in which I, as Winston French-Smythe the British diplomat and purveyor of red herrings, have somehow managed to become the focus of animosity from almost every other country in the game - led Mike Collins, who is playing Russia, to send me a photocopy of the rules as published in the U.S.A.

Hold on to your hats folks - although the basic rules are the same, the American version of the rule-book is substantially different to ours! The principal difference is in the amount of detail and explanatory notes that appear in the American version. I haven't yet had time to study the two sets closely enough to find any major differences in actual rule structure, but I hope to publish a report on this in ALBION issue 14 for the general enlightenment of everyone.

Luckily the house rules of ALBION are based on American, not British rules, so the ALBION games are not affected. However it comes to a pretty pass when the same game is marketed in different versions on opposite sides of the Atlantic. Maybe this is why the Americans call another game TICTACTOE when we all know that its real name is er..... oh yes, noughts and crosses.

ALBION bridges the information gap.

(A fine-sounding title with little, if any, relevance to the data in hand).

Some time ago - in issue 9, to be exact - I announced that the publishers of THE HISTORY OF THE ENGLISH SPEAKING PEOPLES were advertising Diplomacy, and that I had written to the publishers telling them about the facilities ALBION offers for postal play of Diplomacy. I have still had no reply from the publishers themselves, but a letter has arrived from Mr. D.D.Jones, 4/58 Deveron Drive, Tilehurst, Reading RG3 4YE, as follows:-

Dear Sir,

I recently wrote to BPC Publishing Ltd (through whom I had bought the game Diplomacy) and expressed the difficulty I had in finding others with sufficient interest in the game to play it in its correct procedure.

They very kindly gave me your name and address as they understand that you have operated a form of postal Diplomacy. If this is still in operation I would be pleased to be invited to participate in any way possible. Perhaps if this is no longer in operation, you may be able to advise me of others, perhaps in my area, who

have an interest in the game.
In the meantime, I have the pleasure of remaining,
Yours faithfully,
D.D.Jones.

Thank you, Mr. Jones, for your letter and expression of interest. It is nice to know that BPC didn't just ignore my original letter to them, although they don't seem keen on allowing me to circulate purchasers of the game with a leaflet explaining ALBION and the purpose of its existence. However the gap has been bridged, at last, and perhaps this will be the first of many letters I get on the subject.

Anyway, in answer to the questions Mr. Jones raises, he will be receiving an explanatory letter plus a free copy of this issue of ALBION, which will help to show him that:-

- a) we run two games, with openings for more;
- b) the rest of ALBION is the most unmitigated rubbish ever to be put on paper, external contributions excepted.

I hope Mr. Jones will be persuaded to subscribe to ALBION and, in time, to enter one of the games.
Which brings me to another matter -

ALBION game openings.

At present, we have only the Abstraction variant open for bids for countries. So far we have had four offers, from Malcolm Watson, Richard Redd, John Robertson and Bernie Ackerman. As announced previously, the game fee will be 10/-, plus postage for the issues of ALBION in which reports appear. Since the game is open to all (not restricted to the British Isles) the reports will appear in alternate issues of ALBION, thus allowing time for overseas communication. The game fee also covers a subscription to the intermediate issues in which there will be no Abstraction report. For future reference in these pages, the Abstraction variant will be called ALBION 70/1V. However, in view of the requests I have had for regular games, both international and 'domestic', I think it's about time we announced openings for more regular games, as follows:-

ALBION 70/3 will be a regular game, using the normal Diplomacy rules plus the ALBION house rules. It will be open to all comers, and hence will be reported in alternate issues of the magazine, as Abstraction. The game fee will be 10/-, and players will also have to contribute postage cash (airmail for overseas players, 5d for British Isles). This game fee will include a subscription to the intermediate issues. If overseas players want me to do so, I can send the game report and associated press releases airmail, and the rest of the magazine by surface, which will cut the costs somewhat.

I hope that this game, and the Abstraction game, will commence in issue 17. Please get your requests in to me now - but no cash at present until the players are fixed.

The following have all expressed their interest in a regular game, and hence will have priority for 70/3; they should, of course, confirm their position.

D.D.Jones, Richard Redd, Bernie Ackerman, Dave Johnston, Buddy Tretick. Only two places left - hurry, hurry. Truly an international game, with two Americans, one from G.B., one from Israel and a South African!

Finally, a few months hence, I hope to be starting another regular game, ALBION 70/4, which will be for British players only and which will run on the 'short' deadlines of one report per issue. You can reserve your places in this game now - the fee will be 10/- plus postage - but I don't want to start the game until 69/1 starts drawing to a close.

SUMMARY - ALBION GAME OPENINGS.

- 70/1V. Abstraction. Three places currently vacant. 10/- fee. Alternate issues. Please vote on optional starting rules - see issue 11. All comers.
- 70/3. Regular. All comers. Two places currently vacant if all on the priority list accept. 10/- fee. Alternate issues.
- 70/4. Regular. British players only. Report each issue. All places currently vacant. 10/- fee. Here's a thought - we could make this anonymous - no-one except me knows who is playing, all propaganda via press releases only. Please give your opinion when applying for a place.

Note that in all regular ALBION games, players are assured of playing a different country to that/those they are already playing in other games. This does not apply to Abstraction.

Just before the game report, extracts from a letter from Fred Davis, the inventor of Abstraction.

Dear Don,

Thank you for a most excellent presentation of Abstraction in ALBION. The printing job was excellent, and I found no typographical errors. Except that you misspelled my name 'Davies' on page 22. My Seconds will be around to see you in the morning. It will be interesting to see what happens. By the time I receive issue 13, we should have a fair idea as to whether the game is going to succeed in getting 7 players.
I found your article on the attempted exchange of the U.S. dollar bill hilarious. Never having attempted to exchange less than a 10 dollar Travellers Cheque, I never ran into quite such an outrageous rate of exchange.

Anyway, just save that dollar bill, and I guarantee that before you have taken two dozen steps beyond the Customs checkpoint, whether at Kennedy Airport or Ispeming Field in East Nowhere, someone will be glad to help you spend it.

.....

Thank you, Fred, for the comments, and glad you are satisfied about the presentation of Abstraction. At present it looks as though 7 players will be found, since I have had no American offers yet, and I know George Patton, Bob Johnson and perhaps others will be interested. Apologies for the misspelling of your name - I don't think I have done the same thing anywhere else, but it is a common error, as no doubt you will have found.

Now for the game reports.

REPORT.

ALBION 69/1.
Winter 1906 builds etc.

(1969BG)

England annihilated.
 France builds F(Bre), A(Mar).
 Germany builds F(Ber).
 Italy removes F(Tun).
 Russia removes A(Ukr).

Russian F retreats to BAS. Turkish fleet retreats to EMS.

REPORT.

ALBION 69/1.
Spring 1907 orders.

(1969BG)

Austria (Nethercot); A(Vie)-Gal. A(Boh) S A(Vie)-Gal.
 A(Ven) stands. A(Tyr) S A(Ven).
 A(Tri) S A(Ven).
 France (Watson); F(IOS) stands. F(Nap) S F(IOS).
 A(Mar)-Pie. A(Tus) S A(Mar)-Pie.
 A(Ruh) S German A(Mun). A(Lpl)-Yor.
 F(Bre)-MAO. F(NTH)-Ska.
 F(Edi)-NTH. F(NWG) S F(Edi)-NTH.
 Germany (Newcombe); A(Mun) stands. F(Ber)-BAL.
 F(BAL)-Swe. F(Den) S F(BAL)-Swe.
 A(War)-Mos. A(Pru)-Liv.
 Italy (Robertson); A(Rom)-Ven. F(ADS) S A(Rom)-Ven.
 Russia (Hancock); F(BAS) S F(Nor). F(Nor) S A(Swe).
 A(Liv) stands. F(GoB) S A(Liv).
 A(Mos) S A(Liv). A(Swe) S F(Nor).
 Turkey (Wood); F(AES)-Con. A(Smy)-Arm.
 A(Gre)-Bul. F(EMS)-AES.
 A(Alb) stands.

Retreats:- None.

Notation: Underlined moves fail.

Deadline for the Autumn 1907 orders is:-

THURSDAY MARCH 26th 1970.

PRESS RELEASES - ALBION 69/1 (1969BG).

Flash from Austria.

Units of the Austrian Peoples' Army have crushed an Imperialist uprising in Galicia. All provinces are now under the control of the Central Government.

From the Italian Press.

Once again it has been vividly brought home to the eyes of the world - the perfidious and dastardly behaviour of the French, under their devilish, treacherous and scheming leader Malcolm de Gaul. Completely ignoring any treaties or agreements, they have taken advantage of our Italian hospitality and have entered one of our leading cities - Naples. Already crowds of Italians are asking who are our enemies - the Austrians or the French? If the French are our friends, what are our enemies like? Urgent demands have been sent to de Gaul, stating that, if the French fleet is not immediately withdrawn from Naples, Italian forces in Rome will withdraw to the Apulian peninsula, and permit the Austrian troops to enter that city, and that the Italian army and fleet will assist the Austrians in any way they can. With one voice, Italy states that she would rather go down before a gallant enemy than a treacherous friend.

From the Turkish Press.

Severe censorship is at present in force within the news agencies, imposed by King Reshadieh some time ago. Rumours say that he is still undecided upon his immediate foreign policy, although TRASH cannot confirm this. Nevertheless, an evaluation of the present position in South East Europe indicates that an explosion could be imminent. Both the Russian and Austrian ambassadors have been seen at the Foreign Office, and it must be surmised that discussions are under way with our new leader.

From the French Press.

De Gaul Warns De Eyties.

L'Empereur De Gaul has issued yet another warning to our Italian brethren. He warns them that the recent statements issued by them about declaring war and so on were being treated as serious and that the French people want action to be taken against these upstarts. In answer to these demands French naval units will remain in Naples for an indefinite period, whereas French army units are moving into Piedmont as a precautionary measure. It is regretted that no solution could be reached between the new Turkish Government and France, and conditions in the Mediterranean can be expected to sink into stagnation any time now. It is expected, however, that Austria will soon be expelled from Venice, help from the depleted Italian army being forthcoming. M. De Gaul concluded by congratulating Germany on her military feat in Warsaw, and said he saw no reason why they should not continue - Russia's loss of her Ukraine army sealed the fate of Warsaw and since French naval units continued to push Russian ships back at will, he was very optimistic that Russia would soon fall.

REPORT.

ALBION 69/2.
Winter 1902 builds etc.

(1969CF)

England removes F(BAS).
 France builds F(Bre).
 Germany builds A(Ber).
 Italy builds F(Nap).
 Turkey removes A(Ank).

REPORT.

ALBION 69/2.
Spring 1903 orders.

(1969CF)

Austria (Wood);	A(Gal)-Vie. F(Alb) S A(Ser).	<u>A(Ser) S F(Alb).</u> <u>A(Bud)-Rum.</u>
England (Hancock);	A(Lon)-Yor. F(NWG)-Cly.	F(NTH)-Lon.
France (Evans);	A(Spa) stands. F(IRI)-Lpl. A(Pic)-Wal.	A(Bel)-Bur. F(Bre)-MAO. F(ENC) C A(Pic)-Wal.
Germany (Stuart);	F(Nor)-Swe. A(Ber)-Pru. A(Hol)-Kie.	F(Kie)-BAL. A(Mun)-Sil. F(Hel)-NTH.
Italy (Watson);	A(Tun) stands. F(IOUS)-AES. <u>F(Smy) S F(IOUS)-AES.</u>	A(Tyr) stands. F(Nap)-IOS.
Russia (Robertson);	A(War)-Gal. F(Rum) stands. F(GoB) C A(Swe)-Liv.	A(Sev)-Ukr. A(Swe)-Liv. F(StP-NC)-BAS.
Turkey (Thomas);	F(AES)-EMS. <u>A(Gre) S Italian A(Alb).</u> <u>A(Bul)-Ser.</u>	<u>F(Con)-Smy.</u> (No such unit).

Retreats: none.

Notation: Underlined moves fail. C = convoys. S=supports.

Deadline for Autumn 1903 order is:-

THURSDAY MARCH 26th 1970.

PRESS RELEASES - ALBION 69/2 (1969CF).

From the French Press.

'FRANCE AT WAR WITH ENGLAND' - Daily Looking Glass.

In a megaphone broadcast from the top of the Eiffel Tower to the nation at 11.15 a.m. on Sunday May 3rd. 1903, the President said:- "This morning the French Ambassador in London handed the British Government a final Note stating that unless we heard from them by eleven o'clock that they were prepared at once to withdraw their troops from Southern Ireland, a state of War would exist between us."

"I have to tell you now that no such undertaking has been received, and that consequently this country is at war with England."

"Up to the last it would have been quite possible to have arranged a peaceful and honourable settlement between Southern Ireland and England, but it was not to be. They have evidently made up their minds to attack Southern Ireland whatever happened, and although they now say they put forward reasonable proposals which were rejected by the Irish, this is not a true statement."

"We and Germany are today, in fulfilment of our obligations, going to the aid of Southern Ireland, who is so bravely resisting this unprovoked attack. It is an evil thing we are fighting against, but with the help of Kaiser Bob I am certain that right will prevail."

As a result of President Snave's declaration of war against England, the French fleet now in the Irish Sea will sail into Liverpool and bombard the Kop, while the French Marines will land and liberate the capital of Ireland from the hated English. We will be ably supported in our task by the Watford partisans, who are fighting bravely behind British lines.

Our illustrious (and narrow-minded) President has had a very busy time censuring reports coming in from Germany about the Kaiser nesting, and a whole lot of sex talk about knickers etc. Our French paper, the News of the Earth, had a field day with the scoops they got. Therefore will the Kaiser kindly stop all this kind of talk, otherwise our can can girls, who can't, will.

Green and Brown Don't make a sound,
Yellow and Green Make a scream,
Mauve and Black Don't make a pack,
Black and Blue Will see it through!

From the Italian Press.

ITALY DENOUNCES THE TURKS.

It has at last been revealed to the world what a cunning and treacherous lot the Turks are. In an official announcement the Italian Government denounced Turkey for her treacherous attack on the Italian first fleet. In it the Admiral of the Fleet described the event:-

"Ve vasa sailing about ina dee vater when allofasudden the coastline ofa Smyrna sailed into sighta. I immediately ordered alla shipsa to heada west with fulla speed, but it wasa no use. Before we coulda raise steam we wasa overtaken and surrounded by the Turkish mainland. Ita wasa terribile!"

Admiral Augustas has been ordered to fight his way out of this diabolical trap as best he can.

On now to a different area - North Italy or Tyrol; it all depends how you pronounce it. The Italian Government takes a very serious view of the outrageous attack on her troops made by Mad Bob the Kaiser. This, along with the current policy adopted by the German press, has gone a long way to causing friction between our two countries. However, being a cool, calm, sensible nation, Italy will not declare war yet!

A note of protest has been sent to Germany along with a very severe warning, and this warning is now made public.

Continued co-operation between Austria and Italy gives rise to hope for a speedy settlement of the Balkans issue.

VIVA ITALIA!

From the Russian Press.

In view of the recent outbursts from the Austrian Government, accusing Russia of combining with Turkey to attack her, Russia of combining with Italy to attack her, Italy of combining with Turkey to attack her - in fact, everyone of combining with everyone else to attack her - it is becoming increasingly obvious that Austria is being ruled by people suffering from dementia praecox, paranoid schizophrenia, and showing signs of strong persecution complexes and psychosomatic tendencies. We appeal to the people of Austria to remove these dangerous maniacs, and open their eyes to the true facts.

Russia has never once, in any way, threatened the integrity of the Austrian nation. Our armies have kept well within their own provinces, and the thought of aggression against Austria has never entered our heads.

Even now, after the declaration of war upon our Motherland by Austria, and the recent violent attacks upon our integrity, we are still not making any aggressive moves against her, but instead are appealing to the better sides of the Austrian Government to reconsider their treacherous and unprovoked attack. We are giving Austria every consideration, but, if these scurrilous attacks continue, and the Austrian armies attempt an invasion of Russian provinces, then we will have no alternative but to defend ourselves and wipe this treacherous nation from the face of the earth.

From the Austrian Press.

Count Molochite feels that he must warn Germany that an attack on her is very probable in the light of certain evidence obtained by our espionage system. It is understood from reliable sources that this information must be treated seriously and that preparations are in hand. Already the Russian Ambassador has visited Count Molochite in an attempt to obtain our co-operation by signing a peace treaty. It goes without saying that Count Molochite rebuffed this peace attempt by the aggressor, and Germany can count on Austrian support if and when required.

Onto more serious matters. First it was the left-hand screwdriver, then anti-gravity hour-glass egg-timers, plus the famous atomic powered rowing boat and the nuclear peashooter, not forgetting the atomic crossbows (patented by Bernie the Bolt himself). And now - yes, our inventive leader has finally revolutionised the sleeping industry. You've guessed it - the nuclear powered bed. It's a must for really deep sleep, and it is delivered to your door complete

INTERNATIONAL
VERSION OF SNAKES
AND LADDERS



NEW ALBION
COVER FOR
APPROVAL

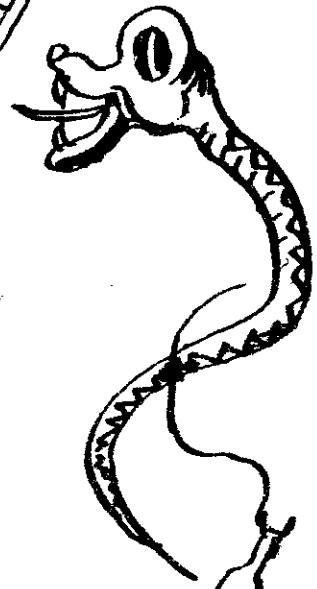


ITALY COMES
TO HEEL



WARSAW

VENICE



W.R.